

PHEASANTS FOREVER NEWS

FALL ISSUE
2024

PHEASANTS FOREVER **CALGARY** NEWSLETTER
Created for our members by our members



Pheasants Forever Calgary
Directors' Invitational Shoot

- 2008
Bobby Mackenzie
David Scott
Jeff Scott
Alan Kober
- 2009
John Robinson
Gary Hill
Tom Copithorne
Bill Burwash
Bob Groszicki
- 2010
Robbie Roberts
Tom Hiddell
Dave Erickson
Cody McArthur
Jeff Lamuda
- 2011
Tom Brastrud
Ed Anderson
Jim Rhyno
Don Terrio
Chris Cutts
- 2012
Robbie Roberts
David Erickson
Tom Hiddell
Lee Meyerow
George Segura



21st Anniversary Shoot



The winning team - **The Five Losses**. Congratulations to (l to r): Mike Kwan, Jim Armstrong, Les Myers, Kris Marthaller and Bob Braid.

The **21st Annual Auspice Capital Director's Invitational** was held on Thursday, September 5th at the AHEIA Calgary Firearms Centre at DeWinton. Long known for being a gorgeous day weather wise – the trend continued as we had another gorgeous late summer day.

The Calcutta was a big hit as usual with over \$11,000 generated in bidding for teams. The Golden Prairie Team won the Calcutta once again while Pheasants Forever President Scott Price won both the second place team and the 7th place team.

After the Calcutta the shoot began. The competition is one round of Trap, one round of Trap Doubles and one round of Skeet.

The winning team was **The Five Losses** (photo above). Congratulations! The Five Losses wore their team uniforms – jeans with matching shooting shirts, thanks to The Blackfoot Inn. Each shooter sported a different name on the back – with prominently featured titles: LOW, SLOW, FAST, HIGH & FLINCH.

The highlight of the 21st anniversary shoot was the presence and support of **Caesar Guerini**. They brought

several shotguns for attendees to try out at the 5-stand clay course and donated a beautiful Tempio .410 over and under shotgun, which raised over \$5,000 for conservation.

Another great meal and great event thanks to the folks from Great Events.

After auctioning off a handful of items we ended the evening with the draw for the Three Amigos Shotgun Raffle. Congratulations to Larry Sheuerman for winning the 3-sub gauge Beretta over and under shotguns.

Thanks to Bill Brown of Elevate Auctions, Derek Hallgrimson, Geoff Sage, Jarod Ross, Gustov Mesen-Jarquín, Alana Brumwell, Deana Schmuland, Nicole Borghese & Terri and Laurette for their tremendous support.

It was another first class, high energy, warm & friendly event.

A special thanks to Auspice Capital for their continued sponsorship.



The Gold!



Calcutta about to start.



Table setup.



Dinner gets started.



Auspice & PF bottles were a hit.



A sample of the great food.



The action begins.



A beautiful day at the AHEIA Calgary Firearms Centre.



The Five Losses: High, Ringer, Slow, Flinch and Fast.



The Shooting Centre: Roy Smith, James Bachynsky, Jeremy Green and Markus Furrer.



ACA: Lori-Jeanne Edwards, Ken Kranrod, Linda Zimmerling, Todd Zimmerling and Jalen Hult.



Team Italy: Tony Distefano, Andy Giacomini, Vince Aiello, Gino DeMichael, Sandro Esposito



Peanuts: Gord Dawson, Scott McGuigan, Matthew Arnill, Drew Shaw and Larry Scheurman.



Auspice: Nate Rome, Larry Kaumeyer, Tim Pickering, Geoff Badger and Josh Day.



The Litigators: Charles Dixon, Sam Friley, Bill Friley, Tom Sherry and Jim Baker.



Calfrac: Pat Powell, Brent Merchant, Gord Milgate, Graig Shenher and Andy Olekszyk.



Neil & The Kids: Chris Powell, Neil MacKenzie, Justin Wharton, Grant MacKenzie and Travis Powell.



Missed Again: Dustin Kolb, Jon Dick, Danny Dalta-Longa Mark Perkins and Mike Perkins.



Bent Barrells: Jordan Mannas, Dean Gallacher, Rod Shyba, Walsh Mannas and Mike Mannas.



Shoot Happens: David Scott, Bob Logan, Nick Stanford, Bob Merkley and Scott Price.



Rooster Boosters: Jarod Ross, Gustov Mesen-Jarquín, Alana Brumwell, Geoff Sage and Derek Hallgrímson.



Team Brooks: Martin Gubbins, Don Meyer, Ron McConnell, Jody Bouchard and Al Jones.



Single Guns: Ruben Garcia, Taylor Amonson and Darin Dunlop.



Deanna, Terri and Nicole.



Auctioneer Bill Brown selling the Calcutta



Perry on the mic.

FIRST PHEASANT MENTOR HUNT

New Location - Just in Time

6th
ANNUAL



The **6th Annual First Pheasant Mentor Hunt** took place on Saturday, September 28 at the venerable Rump's River Retreat on the Blue Ribbon of the Bow River under sunny blue skies and warm fall weather – a near perfect day at the perfect location.

Twelve folks that had never hunted pheasants – all got shots at their first birds over highly trained pointing dogs and all but 2 got their first bird.

Each hunt session featured two mentees with a mentor and a dog handler and six rooster pheasants. Half of the 40 birds were bagged, cleaned and went home with the mentees for cooking.

Aside from the hunt, the attendees were provided a seminar on the history and hunting of upland gamebirds in southern Alberta, a cleaning seminar (followed by everyone cleaning their birds) and a cooking seminar.

Dave Scott led a shooting clinic designed for upland bird wing shooting.

Thanks to Mike and Rodney Perkins, Chris MacLean and Brian Ness for mentoring the hunts and thanks to Vince Aiello, Kimberley Meyer and Steven Wier for handling the master pointers. Thanks also to Neil and Terri Bass for all of their support in organizing the day.

A special thanks to Glen Rumpel who supported us with the use of his land and buildings and everything we needed. His helpful demeanour made it a most welcoming environment for all participants.

Thanks also to Alberta Conservation Association for supplying the birds.



FIRST
PHEASANT
MENTOR HUNT





A great group of mentees.



Field station at the very scenic Rump's River Retreat.



Cleaning seminar gets underway.



Mentors Mike Perkins (left) and Rodney Perkins (right) celebrate a successful hunt with mentees.



Pheasant Hunting Opportunities

Search for habitat that is preferred by wild birds and seek landowner permissions to open up additional opportunities. Find pheasant hunting opportunities on *Provincial Pheasant Release Sites* ranging from Peace River to Medicine Hat.

Visit [pheasant-release-sites at ACA](#) to plan your hunts at over 40 sites.

Youth/Novice Fall Shoot and Provincial Hunting Day



**23rd
ANNUAL**

Over 150 students were in attendance.

The 23rd Annual Youth/Novice Fall Shoot on Provincial Hunting Day was another huge success.

The event, which is held at AHEIA's Calgary Firearms Centre at DeWinton, featured over 150 students at the all-day event for some fun with guns. More than 20 dedicated mentor/leaders helped make the day safe and successful, including Pheasants Forever volunteers and directors.

First timers are taught safety first and then are coached for skill on the trap, skeet and sporting clay fields. Instruction is given on various hunting techniques, archery and other outdoor pursuits. All of the shells and firearms are free of charge and attendees were provided a complimentary lunch.

It is a special day for the attendees and the volunteer-leaders are rewarded with the smiles of all the young folks that just shot their first targets - a day in their life they will likely never forget.

Pheasants Forever Calgary and Alberta Conservation Association are proud sponsors of the annual gathering. Special thanks to Bob Gruszecki for his leadership in making the whole event safe and fun for all attendees.

Pheasants Forever is a proud sponsor of the annual event.



The simulated field fowl hunt.



First timer getting coached on trap shooting.



Lunch was provided.



Track identification.



Coach Claude on the simulated field.



Coach Kris teaching skeet shooting.

RUMP'S RIVER RETREAT

Chairman's Trip on the Blue Ribbon Bow



John & Katrina Robinson of Greendrop and Scott & Elan Lees of Soderglen Ranch joined Perry & Kade McCormick for a day of flyfishing on the Blue Ribbon section of the Bow River.

The trip was made possible by Glen Rumpel, our 2024 Dinner & Auction Chair who donated the experience as part of the auction.

The day started with a lesson on fly casting at Police Point as none of the folks had ever flyfished. The group enjoyed a first class lunch on a big picnic table located on an island on the river. A few fish were caught and a few laughs were had. The day ended at Rump's River Retreat where Glen served up some Wagyu beef tri tip to die for.

The group enjoyed an evening around the fire on the porch before enjoying a quiet cool and dark night on the river. A big western style breakfast topped off the trip that was enjoyed by all.

Thanks again to Chairman Glen for all he does for conservation in Southern Alberta.



**CALGARY
DINNER &
AUCTION**

LOW COUNTRY BOIL

Another auction item success!

BADGER
INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS

Earls
WESTHILLS



Thanks to the great donation of a Low Country Boil in your backyard by the good folks of Earls Westhills; the Anderson Family held a friend and family reunion-like party at their property east of Calgary, adjacent to Pheasants Forever's Langdon Demonstration Site. The "Strawberry Farm" as its known was the perfect location for the event and the weather was also perfect making for a terrific party. And what a feast it was.

The low country boil is prepared in a pot of delicious southern broth with baby potatoes, onions and corn on the cob. Accompaniments included lemon wedges, fresh melted butter and cocktail sauce. Beer and wine was provided. Dessert was strawberry shortcake with whip cream.

Thanks to **Badger** for sponsoring Pheasants Forever and supporting the auction to boot.



**CALGARY
DINNER &
AUCTION**

Your Support Makes it Happen

Vauxhall Drain Gets \$90,000 Boost

The **Vauxhall Drain** project is located a short distance east of the Town of Vauxhall in the Bow River Irrigation District.

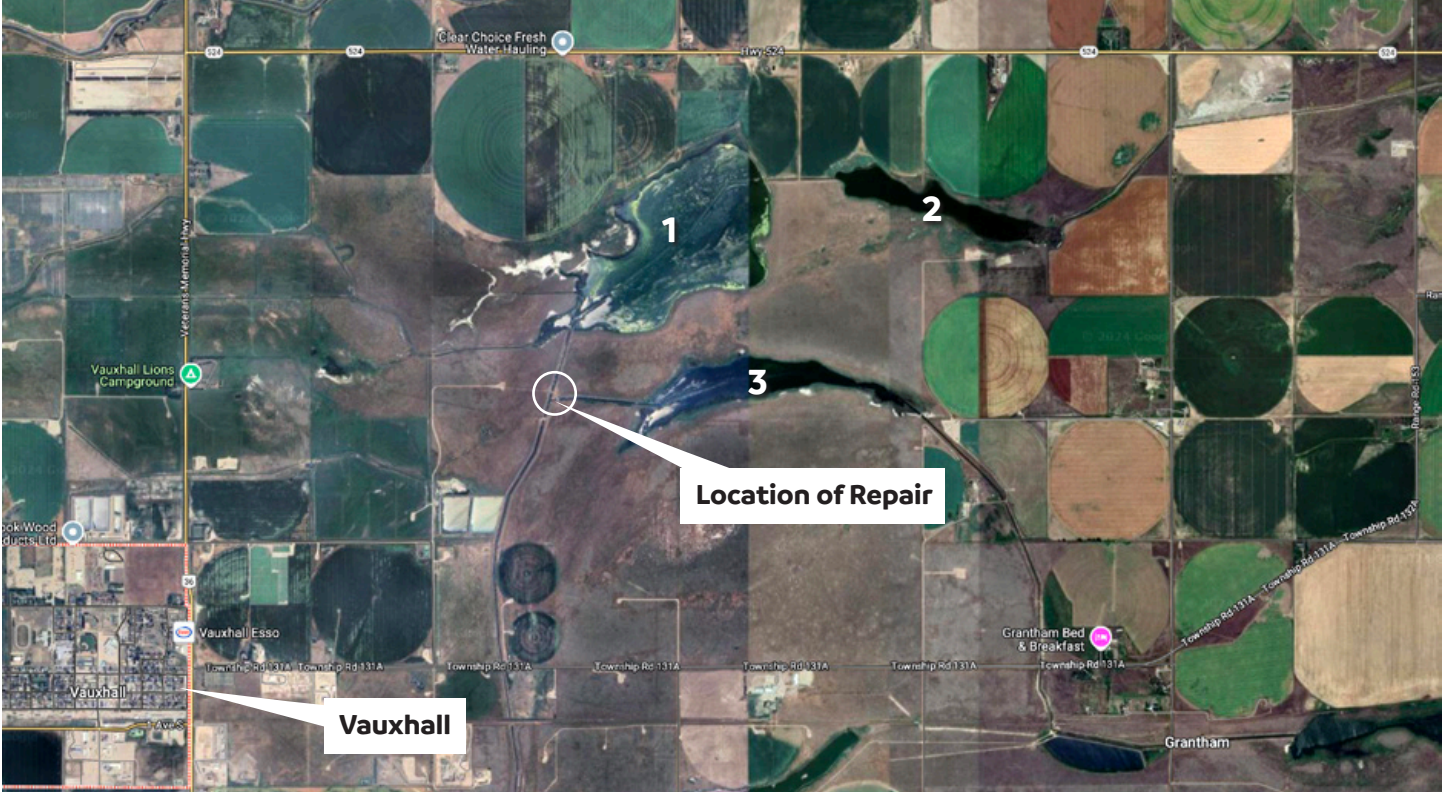
There are three wetland basins totaling 430 acres with adjacent uplands that are moderately grazed native pasture providing habitat for numerous shorebird species, ring-necked pheasant, grey partridge and sharp-tailed grouse.

This is a Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) project originally designed in 1985 for cattle grazing and for its high value for waterfowl nesting.

Pheasants Forever will be investing \$90,000 into repairs on irrigation infrastructure on one of the basins this fall to ensure the project's long-term vitality.



Control structure requires extensive repair.



The Vauxhall project is comprised of three wetlands and is located east of the Town of Vauxhall.

Pheasants Forever Calgary has always aligned itself with a long list of like-minded partners including Ducks Unlimited Canada.

Partnerships enable the chapter to continually increase the amount of influenced habitat acres for the benefit of wildlife. This strategy allows all partners to achieve environmental milestones far greater than what any one organization could accomplish alone.

LETHBRIDGE POLYTECHNIC

Pheasants Forever Calgary Award

Each year Pheasants Forever Calgary provides a \$1500 award for a full-time student continuing on from year one to year two or from year three to year four in a School of Environmental Sciences program at Lethbridge Polytechnic. It is awarded to a student who demonstrates academic achievement and volunteerism in their community.

This year the award went to Hailey O'Brien who is taking Natural Resources Compliance.

Congratulations Hailey!

For more information visit [Pheasants Forever Calgary Award](#).



Hailey O'Brien

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Pheasants Forever Magazine and Quarterly E-News

STAN GRAD MEMORIAL HUNT



Scott & Elan Lees of Soderglen Ranches organized an event in honour of one of Pheasants Forever's greatest supporters. The Stan Grad Memorial Hunt was held at Chief Mountain Lodge on Soderglen's South Ranch on the US border under the shadow of Chief Mountain.

Stan held a handful of special hunts for his friends on an annual basis for well over a decade. Teams of 5 would arrive for an evening of wining and dining and good fellowship. The next day, the group hunted for a morning and an afternoon session followed by another gourmet western supper. One more morning of pheasant hunting, and a big brunch capped off the experience.

Many memories were made over the years – several included wildlife encounters from bobcats to grizzly bears. But mostly it was about the fellowship, which Stan enabled over and over. Stan's generosity and commitment to conservation allowed Pheasants Forever to be a part of these trips every year. In turn,

Pheasants Forever used the opportunity to generate revenue, thank donors and/or influence politicians and patrons.

The **Stan Grad Memorial Hunt** was designed the same as all of the hunts held previously. Neil MacKenzie, who was always at Stan Grad's side at these events, was the hunt leader. Although Neil doesn't run quite as tight a ship as old Stan did – he comes a real close second. Stan always referred to Neil as "birdbrain" on these hunts for his uncanny ability to be able to predict where pheasants are going to fly once the drive is executed. Nothing has changed on this front.

The event was held on a beautiful weekend weather wise – about perfect. The birds were plentiful and lots of laughs were had. A great time was had by all recounting the many memories that Stan enabled and loved so dearly.

See pics on following page.

STAN GRAD MEMORIAL HUNT



Kade and Bob with the Chief in the background.



Kade McCormick, Glen Rumpel, Neil MacKenzie, Scott Lees, Perry McCormick & Craig Dorn.



Preparing the next drive.



Soderglen's Scott Lees.

STAN GRAD MEMORIAL HUNT



Neil MacKenzie, Glen Rumpel & Pat Powell .

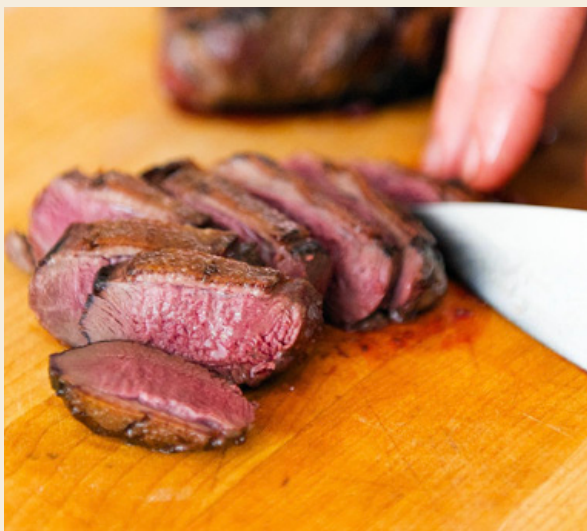


Scott, Glen, Jeff & Neil getting after the Bennie's.



The hunt.

READY FOR **FALL** STUFF



HOW TO COOK DUCK BREASTS

by Hank Shaw

 GET THE RECIPE



From the **Hunter Angler Gardener Cook**, the Internet's largest source of recipes and know-how for wild foods. Hank is a chef, author, and yes, hunter, angler, gardener, forager and cook.

2024 PHOTO CONTEST NOW OPEN!

Deadline for photos
December 31, 2024



 CONTEST INFORMATION



Best overall photo will win a **KAILANI Shaka 20 Cooler.**

JOIN OUR INCREDIBLE GROUP OF SPONSORS

All sponsor logos will be included on pfcalgary.ca's homepage and in Pheasants Forever Calgary's quarterly e-newsletters. Deadline for yearly logo recognition is April 15.

Gold Patrons

Contribution of \$25,000



Patrons

Contribution of \$10,000



Audi Royal Oak



Gold Patron - \$25,000

(\$25,000 and up)

The most prestigious sponsorship with extra large logo recognition as a **Gold Patron** at all 2024 events, within the printed Dinner & Auction program and powerpoint presentation during the Dinner.

Patron - \$10,000

(\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Extra large logo recognition as a **Patron** on Patron's banner at all 2024 events, within the printed Dinner & Auction program and powerpoint presentation during the Dinner.

JOIN OUR INCREDIBLE GROUP OF SPONSORS

All sponsor logos will be included on pfcalgary.ca's homepage and in Pheasants Forever Calgary's quarterly e-newsletters. Deadline for yearly logo recognition is April 15.

Gold Sponsors

Contribution of \$5,000



Gold - \$5,000

(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Large logo recognition as a **Gold Sponsor** on Gold Sponsor's banner at all 2024 events, within the printed Dinner & Auction program and powerpoint presentation during the Dinner.

Silver Sponsors

Contribution of \$2,500



Silver - \$2,500

(\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Large logo recognition as a **Silver Sponsor** on a banner at all 2024 events and within the printed Dinner & Auction program.

Bronze Sponsors

Contribution of \$1,000



Bronze - \$1,000

(\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Standard logo recognition as a **Bronze Sponsor** on a banner at all 2024 events and within the printed Dinner & Auction program.

Friends

Conservation Partners



IMPORTANT DATES

December 3	Board of Director's Meeting and Sponsor's Christmas Appreciation Night The Ranchmen's Club
March 7-9, 2025	<u>National Pheasant Fest & Quail Classic 2025</u> Kansas City Convention Center, Kansas City, Mo



PHEASANTS FOREVER CALGARY
 P.O. Box 5021, Station "A"
 Calgary, AB T2H 1X1

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

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